

September 6, 2005
Regular Session

Minutes

Members present

D.C. Swaim- Chairman
Brady Wooten- Vice- Chairman
Leon Casstevens- Commissioner
Kim Clark Phillips- Commissioner
Allen Sneed- Commissioner

Others Present

Cecil E. Wood- County Manager
James Graham- County Attorney
Melinda Vestal-Clerk to the Board

Chairman Swaim called the meeting to order. Attorney Graham had the invocation. The Board had the pledge of allegiance.

Public comments

Alice Singh, Humane Society, requested to be on the next agenda. She discussed the \$60,000 and how it's to be used for spaying and neutering. She stated the Humane Society has approximately \$6,000 they would like to spend at the animal shelter. She presented a list of suggested items.

Peggy Boose, Boonville, thanked the three Commissioners for being (Wooten, Casstevens and Sneed) conservative. Yadkin County is a poor county and the increase in gas is going to be hard for our elderly and she is very thankful that these three did not raise taxes because it would have been an even bigger burden on our elderly. She also encouraged the three Commissioners to take action against The Ripple for slanderous remarks.

Minutes

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to approve the minutes with changes. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Crossroads- report and resolution

David Swann, Director, presented a six month report for Crossroads. He discussed the changes in Crossroads' providers. Mr. Swann explained how the call-in center operates. The calls are broken down as emergent which needs assistance within two hours, urgent

calls need attention within 24 hours and routine calls with a seven day turnaround. There were 532 assessments done for Yadkin County citizens.

Mr. Wood asked how the state budget is affecting mental health.

Mr. Swann stated there have been some reductions in Medicaid.

Mr. Swann presented a resolution for the Board's consideration.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to adopt the joint resolution with Iredell, Surry and Yadkin counties confirming approval of the conveyance of certain real property to Crossroads. Commissioners Phillips and Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0. (A copy of the resolution is located in the Manager's office in the Crossroads' file)**

Water-report on funding

Randy Darden, Arcadis, presented information on funding options for water systems. He gave an overview of the meetings with the various agencies and what they would offer. He stated grant funding from Rural Development has been reduced from previous years. They will not give more than a million dollars per project. The application with NCDENR is due September 30th. If the loan is approved the county is under no obligation to accept the loan.

Commissioner Wooten questioned if the studies the county has will be sufficient for loan and grant purposes.

Mr. Darden stated yes but more information would have to be added for the public health issues and they would need updated cost estimates.

Commissioner Wooten asked if Yadkin County could submit the application?

Mr. Darden stated yes and he would offer any assistance.

Commissioner Wooten emphasized the need to apply for grant funds. He also questioned if the county was awarded the loan, would that jeopardize grant funding.

Mr. Darden stated no, most grants require a match and the loan could be used as the match.

Commissioner Wooten emphasized he is more interested in applying for grants than loans. The county needs to move forward with water to the I-77/Hwy 421 interchange.

Mr. Darden stated Arcadis has worked for seventeen years with Yadkin County. They also want to get water to the I-77/Hwy 421 interchange.

Commissioner Phillips stated Yadkin County has a water plan with Jonesville as the main supplier. Yadkin County can save more money with a straight low interest loan. We need to act now because the applications are only accepted once a year. ***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to file an application with the State Revolving Loan Fund, with Jonesville as the primary supplier and Yadkinville as another possible source, to put in a water system which will go to West Yadkin School or depending on the area, address the area with the greater public health issues. Also pass a resolution with the Town of Jonesville as the water supplier and adopt an inter-local agreement.** Commissioner Phillips stated the county should apply for everything available.

Commissioner Wooten stated there is too much emphasis on the loan and not enough on grants.

Mr. Wood stated the agencies he has contacted agree with the project and it will help with public health issues and economic development. The amount of grant funds are drying up and those counties which received funds were ready to proceed. Yadkin County, for the first time, is ready to put water lines in the ground. Yadkin County is now faced with higher interest rate and once the project is started we will be open to more grant money.

Chairman Swaim seconded.

Commissioner Sneed asked about a bond referendum.

Commissioner Wooten commented it's a mistake to apply for the loan, should be applying for grants.

Commissioner Phillips stated this is an immediate opportunity.

The Board voted 2-3. Commissioners Sneed, Wooten and Casstevens opposed.

SCAN- overview

This item was tabled. Ms. Alberty was unable to attend.

Health Department- board appointments, budget amendment and personnel

Commissioner Sneed requested he would like to vote on the appointments separately.

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to appoint Ellen Reece to the Board of Health. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Mike Reavis, Health Director, stated the Board of Health per the General Statutes must reflect the population of the county. Ms. Mendoza is a teacher and takes pride in her community.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to appoint Ana Mendoza to the Board of Health. Chairman Swaim seconded.**

Commissioner Sneed commented Ms. Mendoza is not a registered voter.

The Board voted 2-3. Commissioners Sneed, Wooten and Casstevens opposed.

Description	Account Number	Original Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Amended Budget
Administration				
Revenue				
* Misc.	511048900	-0-	337	337
Expense				
Supplies	511052010	5,000	337	5,337

*Payment from Wake Forest University Health for training students.

Description	Account Number	Original Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Amended Budget
WIC BF Peer Counseling	New account			
Revenue				
*DHHS BF Promo	516844210	17,390	(4,000)	13,390
BF Peer Counsel	New account	-0-	4,000	4,000
**DHHS BF Peer Counsel	New account	4,000	2,667	6,667
Expense				
Salary	New line item	-0-	1,390	1,390
FICA	New line item	-0-	107	107
Supplies	New line item	-0-	4,240	4,240
Travel/Train	New line item	-0-	930	930

*Transferring state/federal monies from Breastfeeding Promotions program into new Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program. **This is state/federal grant money earmarked for Breastfeeding Peer Counselor expenses.

RECOMMENDATION: Health Director recommends approval of budget amendments. Board of Health approved.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to approve the amendment. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

The Board discussed the position of an Environmental Health Specialist. There are concerns of the inspections being four weeks behind.

Mr. Reavis stated the salary was originally in the budget but when Chuck Wood left he used that money to make up the differences in the additional budget cuts which cut into positions and services provided. Mr. Reavis requested the Board put the funds back in his budget to fill the position. He also requested that Mr. Williams be allowed to work overtime to catch up on the inspections and that he be paid cash for his overtime. The Board of Health has asked that the Commissioners put the \$42,000 back in the budget for the position.

Commissioner Wooten inquired about contracting out the work.

Mr. Reavis stated that allowing Mike Williams to work overtime is a better choice because he knows the county. Mr. Reavis would like to hire another trained person with the \$42,000.

Commissioner Wooten stated the salary was in the budget that was passed.

The Board discussed the process of land evaluations and septic tank inspections.

Commissioner Casstevens stated the inspections are not getting done. He suggested Mr. Reavis assist with the inspections.

Commissioner Sneed stated he will not support funding the position twice.

Mr. Reavis asked the Board where will he get the funds to fill the position? He stated other positions will be cut.

Commissioner Phillips asked is there other items which can be cut besides positions?

Mr. Reavis stated he has nothing else to cut.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to allow Mike Williams to work overtime and be paid. He is to report back to the Board on the progress in October. The money to pay Mr. Williams will come from the original \$42,697 salary line. Mr. Reavis is to check with surrounding counties about contracting and obtain prices and this money will also come from the \$42,697 salary. Chuck Wood's salary is not to be used for anything else. Mr. Reavis is to advertise for a trained Environmental Specialist and come back with salary options. Mike Williams is allowed to drive the county truck home. Commissioner Casstevens seconded.**

Commissioner Phillips asked Commissioner Wooten even if this meant cutting another employee?

Commissioner Wooten stated the money was in the budget that was approved. There were no salary cuts.

Mr. Reavis asked where does he make the cut?

The Board voted 3-2. Commissioners Phillips and Swaim opposed.

Chairman Swaim called for a break.

Economic Development- update

Bobby Todd gave an update on economic development. Yadkin County's travel and tourism activity increased 11% in 2004 (more than any other county in the Triad area).

Commissioner Phillips inquired about BEPCO's position.

Mr. Todd stated they are coming to the county; just slower than anticipated, but still within the contract.

Commissioner Sneed asked if BEPCO could sell their option?

Mr. Todd stated yes but only if approved by the Board of Commissioners and the Town.

Citizen concern-Swan Creek

Yancy St. John, Swan Creek resident, discussed the Swan Creek interchange. He presented a resolution and asked the Board's support.

Resolution

Whereas, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has completed and now opened U.S. Highway 421, a limited access highway in Yadkin County but did not construct an entrance/exit at S.R. #1300 (Swan Creek Road); and

WHEREAS, S.R. #1300 is a major connecting roadway which, according to the District 11 Highway Engineer, has the highest volume of traffic of any secondary road in Yadkin County. Along this road is a fairly dense residential community and several large businesses. There is also located on S.R. #1300 the only FAA recognized airport (Swan Creek Airport) in Yadkin County; and

WHEREAS, an entrance/exit at the intersection of S.R. #1300 and U.S. #421 would make it much easier for members and guests to have access to churches in the area, to wit: Union Baptist, Old Fashion Baptist, and others, particularly, Swan Creek Baptist Church which has a greater than 500 members and a close association with Piedmont Bible College in Forsyth County. Representatives of Piedmont Bible College regularly travel

from Forsyth County to Swan Creek Baptist Church and many have trouble locating the church due to no interchange at S.R. #1300; and

WHEREAS, S.R. #1300 is a heavily traveled route for both private and commercial traffic from the Elkin-Jonesville area to the “Wilkesboros”, Boone and Winston-Salem. A large number of students from the Elkin-Jonesville area regularly use S.R. #1300 to travel both on a daily and weekly basis to school at Wilkes Community College and Appalachian State University; and

WHEREAS, an entrance/exit at the intersection of S.R. #1300 and U.S. Hwy 421 is necessary for the continued economic growth of the business and town of Elkin-Jonesville, and to promote tourism in conjunction with emerging viticulture industry in the area. Four commercial vineyards have already formed an association “The Vineyards of Swan Creek,” and have filed for national recognition as a recognized viticulture area. The main access to two of these vineyards is off S.R. #1300.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners support as a priority item, the construction of a new interchange at the intersection of U.S. #421 and S.R. #1300 in Yadkin County.

s/D.C. Swaim, Chairman

s/Melinda Vestal, Clerk

Commissioner Sneed commented that Mr. St. John had the full support of the Board back in March. He stated with Mr. St. John’s persistence he will get the new interchange, but at this time I cannot say the interchange is a priority for me.

Commissioner Phillips stated the county can list a number of priorities but these have to be approved by the COG.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to approve the resolution with the approval of DOT and the COG. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Rivers, Stream-report/update

Item tabled

Animal Control- animal shelter and budget amendment

Mr. Wood informed the Board that the items indicated for correction at the last meeting were not complete, but they are working on them.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to table this issue until items are completed. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Dept: Animal Control

Description	Account Number	Original Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Amended Budget
Appropriated Fund Balance	1044000-49000	417,720.00	600.00	418,320.00
Buildings/Grounds-Maintenance	1054380-53010	500.00	600.00	1,100.00

To cover a check written in fiscal year 2004-2005 that was lost and when it was replaced it was written in fiscal year 2005-2006.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

The Board took Ms. Singh's request under advisement.

Richmond Hill- repairs and appointments

The Board discussed the roof at Richmond Hill Law School.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to table this item until another bid is received for the roofing job. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to appoint Commissioner Kim Phillips, David Matthews, Eugene Brown and Danny Royall to the Richmond Hill Law School Commission. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

DOT-road petition (Meadow Brook Drive)

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to approve the road petition for Meadow Brook Drive. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Solid Waste- fees

***Commissioner Casstevens made the motion to increase the rate per ton to \$43 effective immediately. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Aging- appointments

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to appoint Polly Wood, Hobart Hall, Ellen Cheek and Melissa Lyle-Nipper to the Aging Committee. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Soil and Water- budget amendment

Description	Account Number	Original Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Amended
Approp. Fund Balance	1044000-49000	\$417,720	\$12,500	\$430,220
Equipment	1054960-56010	\$300	\$12,500	\$12,800

The money for this amendment comes from the rental fee charged for maintenance of the drill. We want to trade the old drill plus this rental money for a new drill to be used by farmers in the county.

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Tax Administration- permits and back taxes

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to table this until more information is available. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Administration-surplus property

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to declare the items listed as surplus: vehicles from the Sheriff's office, vehicles from Environmental Health , a truck from DSS, desks, computers, chairs, printers, misc office supplies, typewriters, scanners, television and various other items. Bill Johnson will be the auctioneer. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner comments

Commissioner Sneed commented on the \$25,000 given to Smart Start. ***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to put the \$23,000 back in the general fund. Motion withdrawn. Mr. Wood will check on the amount.**

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to set the animal shelter hours as follows: Monday and Wednesday 10-12 and Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-5:00, closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Wooten inquired about the air conditioning at the courthouse.

Mr. Wood stated the compressor is still under warranty. Holcombs installed the unit and they are not longer in business. Mr. Wood stated he will contact the manufacturer.

Mr. Wood stated he met with town officials in Jonesville and discussed the water and sewer needs for the Meadowview development.

Commissioner Wooten inquired about seconds for motions.

Commissioner Wooten asked about the EMS property.

Attorney Graham stated the deed has been prepared and he is waiting on signatures.

Commissioner Wooten stated with the cost of gas increasing he would like to encourage the departments to limit their travel.

Commissioner Wooten inquired about the \$60,000 from the Humane Society.

Mr. Wood stated the county never received the \$60,000.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to appoint Danny Smith as the coordinator for the 9-11 Service in 2006. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Phillips stated she would like to serve on this committee.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to end the contract with Capitol Links effective December 1, 2005. Chairman Swaim seconded.**

Commissioner Wooten asked if this could jeopardize any money he is working on now.

Mr. Wood stated yes it could. Mr. Staton is currently working on several items and we will find out the results after the federal budget is approved.

The Board voted 2-3. Commissioners Wooten, Sneed and Casstevens opposed.

Commissioner Phillips asked if the county invested its money or does it remain in a checking account.

Mr. Wood stated yes, it is invested in certificates of deposit, the North Carolina Cash Management Fund and other approved funds.

Attorney Graham discussed ordinance violations.

The Board discussed the county's ordinances.

Commissioner Phillips commented that she is disappointed and feels the Board made the wrong decision not applying for the water loan.

Chairman Swaim read a thank you card from Kim Cain.

Manager comments

Mr. Wood discussed the Hwy 601 Project. He informed the Board that the contractors would like to substitute a section of PVC piping with ductile iron which is a better grade of piping at no cost to the county; the installation will be much easier.

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to approve the change in the piping at no charge to the county. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Mr. Wood updated the Board on the ½ cent sales tax. Yadkin County was unable to get on the list with the House vote but has reached an agreement to be added when the Senate votes. The Senate adjourned with no action taken.

Mr. Wood stated there will need to be a public hearing for the financing of the EMS stations, schools and the animal shelter. He is checking with the LGC to see if the previous public hearing will be sufficient, if not he would like permission to advertise the public hearing so it will be on the next agenda.

It was the consensus of the Board to hold a public hearing, if necessary, on September 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Wood mentioned to the Board the idea of working four, ten hour days due to the increase of gas prices.

Commissioner Wooten stated bring a proposal back before the Board.

Commissioner Casstevens asked if Larry Adam's secretary could be moved to the position in the tax office.

Mr. Wood stated Ms.Sullivan is the central person for those departments that were Services and Development.

Mr. Wood indicated to the Board that he had some personnel issues to discuss with them at a later time.

Attorney Graham handed out the monthly tax report.

Adjournment

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Melinda Vestal. Clerk to the Board